Inclusion and deletion of castes in SC list

*156. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure being followed by Government to delete castes from the existing list of Scheduled Castes (SC);

(b) whether any caste can be included in the Sceduled Castes' list, without the recommendation of the State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of cases pending for inclusion of new castes into the list of Scheduled Castes; and

(e) the time-frame fixed for taking a decision in all these cases?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) to (e) In accordance with the Modalities, the proposals of the State Government/ Union Territory Administration for any modification in the list of Scheduled Castes is reffered to the Registrar General of India (RGI). The proposals agreed to by the RGI are further referred to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC).

Such proposals as have been agreed to by the RGI and NCSC are processed further and introduced as a Bill for consideration of the parliament. Presently three proposals for inclusion as new entries are in the consultation process. It is not possible to specify a time frame.

Underground cabling in Goa

*157. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide funds for underground cabling work for power transmission in Goa;

(b) the towns proposed to be covered; and

(c) the details of quantum of financial aid likely to be made available to the State?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Three is no proposal to provide funds for underground cabling work for power transmission in Goa. However, Government of India has sanctioned projects for underground cabling work for power sub-transmission in Goa under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP). Out of the six proposals for conversion of overhead network to underground network in Panjim, Margao, Mapusa, Vasco, Ponda Towns and in North & South Goa submitted by Government of Goa, the following schemes were approved by the Steering Committee constituted for consideration of APDRP Schemes:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount
1.	Conversion of overhead distribution network to underground network in Panjim Town	Rs. 35.47 corres

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount
2.	Conversion of overhead distribution network to underground network in Margao town	Rs. 32.79 crores
3.	Improvement in North & South Goa for laying of new 33 kV underground cables and conversion of exsting overhead distribution system to underground system in tourist belt of Saligao, Arpora, Calangute and Candolim sea coast.	Rs. 57.80 crores

Curbing of capitation fee

*158. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalised any legislation to curb the capitation fee menace and also to bring transparency in admissions in private professional colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) As per Section 10 of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Act, 1987, duties of the Council include (i) fixing norms and standards for charging tuition and other fees, (ii) taking all necessary steps to prevent commercialization of technical education, and (iii) providing guidelines for admission of students to technical institutions. Further, as per judgment dated 14.08.2003 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of *"Islamic Academy of Education and another Versus State of Karnataka and Others"* and endorsed by it in its subsequent judgment dated 12th August, 2005 in *"P.A. Inamdar & Ors. Versus State of Maharashtra & Ors."*, each State Government is required to set up two Committees, each headed by a retired High Court Judge, to regulate (i) admission to, and (ii) fee chargeable by private professinal colleges.

Participation in Programme of International Student Assessment

*159. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the reasons for not participating in OECD's Programme of International Student Assessment (PISA) for assessment of science education quality, while 67 countries including developing countries, do so?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) is an internationally standardized assessment for 15 year old students in schools and is meant for member countries of OECD along with certain partner countries. The government of India conducts its own pupil learning achievement surveys under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) through National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) aimed to track changes in learning achievement levels of students and to give a national picture of the status of students learning levels. NCERT conducted such sample surveys for Class V in 2002-03, for Class III and Class VII/VIII in 2003-04 and for Class-V in 20-06-07. The NCERT surveys cover a representatives sample of students across districts.